GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2869
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
LAYING OF TRACKS FOR SEA PORT CARGO TRAFFIC
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering to lay exclusive tracks for sea-port cargo traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether RITES has conducted any study for ascertaining financial viability of such projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any proposal is pending with Railways for clearance in this regard; and

(f) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2869 BY SHRI ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.3.2001 REGARDING LAYING OF TRACKS FOR SEA PORT CARGO TRAFFIC

(a) & (b): All major ports of the country are already well connected by rail. Efforts are being made by the Government to provide the connectivity to new ports being built to attract more traffic from hinterland to ports and vice versa. Some of the new Ports like the Port of Pipavav and the Mundra Port have shown interest in investing in Railway infrastructure.

(c) to (f): Yes, Sir. RITES have conducted the following three seaport related techno-economic feasibility studies:

1) Provision of a BG rails link between Bharuch and the port of Dahej by way of conversion of the existing rail route from NG to BG (Client: Gujarat Maritime Board)

2) Techno-Economic feasibility of Surendranagar - Rajula gauge conversion from MG to BG and a new line from Rajula to the port of Pipavav (Client: Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited)

3) Techno-Economic feasibility for gauge conversion from MG to BG between Gandhidham and Palanpur (Client Ministry of Railways, Kandla Port Trust and Gujarat Adani Port Limited)

As the funding of the above projects involve several Parties, it is not possible to set a timeframe for clearance of the projects. However, two of these projects i.e. Gandhidham - Palanpur conversion and the Surendranagar - Pipavav project have already been cleared by the Government. Funding for the Surendranagar - Pipavav project through the SPV route has also been finalised and Cabinet`s approval taken for this.